

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 14126 121612Z

47

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 INRE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 SP-02 /038 W

----- 080068

O 121602Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4682

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14126

LIMDIS

DEFENSE FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R) US, UK

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO UK - PRIME

MINISTER'S INVITATION

1. JOHN MAYNE, MASON'S PARLIAMENTARY PRIVATE SECRETARY, CALLED EMBOFF TO ASK THAT EMBASSY CONVEY ON AN "URGENT BASIS" PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S INVITATION TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER THAT SECDEF AND AMBASSADOR LUNCH WITH HIM AND MASON AT CHEQUERS AT 1230 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, REPEAT 27.

2. NATURALLY, EMBOFF INQUIRED IF MASON KNEW IF THE PM HAD ANYTHING SPECIFIC ON HIS MIND AND JOHN MAYNE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) THE INVITATION WAS A SPONTANEOUS ONE FROM THE PM WHO CALLED UP MASON AND SAID HE WANTED "TO TALK AT LENGTH WITH YOU; (B) THE PM HAS NEVER MET YOU, 'BUT HAS HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU., THAT THERE ARE A "LOT OF REPORTS ABOUT YOUR STATURE IN WASHINGTON" (NOTING THAT IN ENGLAND SECDEFS ARE NOT PARTICULARLY HIGH IN THE GOVERNMENT PECKING ORDER, WHEREAS IN THE US THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE), AND BECAUSE OF IT THE PM FEELS IT IS "IMPORTANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER". AS AN OBSERVATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 14126 121612Z

OF HOW MOD REACTED TO THE PM'S REQUEST, MAYNE SAID MASON

NOTED THAT ,THE PM DOES NOT VERY OFTEN DO THIS KIND OF A THING". ALSO, MAYNE SAID THAT MASON WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR WARNING TO HIM AT THE MONTEREY NPG MEETING "NOT TO CUT THE DEFENSE BUDGET" AND THAT WHEN THIS WAS REPORTED TO THE PM, IT WAS THE PM WHO DISCOUNTED IT SAYING THAT IT WAS NATURAL FOR A DEFENSE MINISTER "TO TAKE SUCH A LINE".

3. MAYNE SAID THAT MASON IS MOST HOPEFUL YOU WILL ACCEPT AND THAT HE FEELS ACCEPTANCE "WOULD BE VERY GOOD FOR US". FINALLY, MAYNE SAID THAT THE SIZE OF THE LUNCHEON GUEST LIST "IS NEGOTIABLE IF SECDEF WANTS TO BRING SOME OTHERS WITH HIM". AT PRESENT IT IS LIMITED TO FOUR: PM AND MASON, YOU AND I.

4. SINCE MASON AND PRIME MINISTER ARE WELL AWARE THAT YOUR DEPARTURE FOR DENMARK IS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, AND SINCE THEY KNOW THAT VISITS TO FRG AND FRANCE FOLLOW, AND THAT YOU WILL ALREADY HAVE HAD A SHORT MEETING WITH PM ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, I BELIEVE PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION IS PROMPTED MORE THAN SIMPLY "BY WANTING TO MEET YOU.2. HE MUST HAVE A SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND MOTIVE IN MIND -- HIS INVITATION COMING AS IT DOES ON THE LAST WORKING DAY BEFORE THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE.

5. I APPRECIATE THAT A RETURN FLIGHT TO ENGLAND WILL CAUSE BOTH INCONVENIENCE AND DISRUPTION TO YOUR ALREADY CAREFULLY ARRANGED SCHEDULE. HOWEVER, I URGE STRONGLY THAT YOU ACCEPT THE PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION AND CONVEY SUCH ACCEPTANCE IMMEDIATELY.

RICHARDSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON14126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750316-0945
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750958/aaaabzgx.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO UK - PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION
TAGS: OVIP, US, UK, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R)
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006